

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 217699
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 ICA-20 /035 R

DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;SMBYRNES:REH
APPROVED BY EUR;SOV;WTSHINN
-----119446 261424Z /45
R 260016Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 217699

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UR, US

SUBJECT: JACK ANDERSON CONTRASTS SOVIET TREATMENT OF
CHRISTINA ONASSIS AND ELENA KUZMENKO MARRIAGE CASES

1. THE FOLLOWING JACK ANDERSON COLUMN WHICH CONTRASTS
SOVIET TREATMENT OF THE CHRISTINA ONASSIS AND ELENA KUZMENKO
MARRIAGE CASES APPEARS IN THE 'WASHINGTON POST' ON AUG 25:
2. "VISA SNAFU FOILS MOSCOW WEDDING
3. "THREE WEEKS AGO, THE SOVIETS HAPPILY WELCOMED ONE OF
THE WORLD'S WEALTHIEST CAPITALISTS. THE MARRIAGE OF SHIP-
PING TYCOON CHRISTINA ONASSIS TO AN OBSCURE SOVIET SHIPPING
OFFICIAL WAS HAILED AS A COMMUNIST COUP.
4. "BUT LOVE DOES NOT ALWAYS TRIUMPH IN THE AUSTERE
ATMOSPHERE OF MOSCOW. FAR MORE TYPICAL WAS THE EXPERIENCE
OF AMERICAN NURSE ELENA KUZMENKO. SHE, TOO, FELL IN LOVE-
WITH A RUSSIAN, YURI BALOVLENKOV, A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 217699

5. "THE COUPLE MET IN MOSCOW AND PLANNED TO MARRY. THEY
FILED ALL THE DOCUMENTS THE SOVIET BUREAUCRACY REQUIRED.
THE COMMISSARS EVEN SET A WEDDING DATE FOR THEM.
6. "BUT THE BRIDE'S TOURIST VISA EXPIRED LESS THAN A MONTH
BEFORE THAT DATE. SHE TRIED TO GET AN EXTENSION, WHICH

SHOULD HAVE BEEN ROUTINE. BUT WHEN SHE EXPLAINED SHE WANTED TO EXTEND HER STAY TO GET MARRIED, TWO SEPARATE SOVIET AGENCIES TURNED HER DOWN.

7. "IN OTHER WORDS, THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES APPROVED HER MARRIAGE BUT WOULDN'T LET HER REMAIN IN MOSCOW FOR THE OCCASION. SHE APPEALED TO US OFFICIALS TO INTERVENE. THE SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSURED THE OFFICIALS THAT SHE COULD RETURN TO HER FIANCE. ALL SHE HAD TO DO, THEY SAID, WAS LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND APPLY FOR A NEW VISA IN THE UNITED STATES.

8. "KUZMENKO HURRIED BACK TO THE UNITED STATES AND REAPPLIED FOR A VISA. TWO WEEKS LATER, DESPITE THE BLAND ASSURANCES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, THE SOVIET EMBASSY INFORMED HER THAT HER VISA REQUEST HAD BEEN DENIED.

9. "WHEN SHE PROTESTED, THE EMBASSY TOLD HER THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY NEVER PROMISED SHE COULD REENTER THE SOVIET UNION, AND INDEED, KNEW NOTHING ABOUT HER CASE. SHE KEPT TRYING, BUT THE SOVIETS SUMMARILY REJECTED FIVE REQUESTS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF VISAS.

10. "BACK IN MOSCOW, MEANWHILE, HER FIANCE WAS WARNED NOT TO MARRY HER. HE FEARED HE WOULD LOSE HIS JOB, SO HE SWITCHED EMPLOYMENT. HE IS NOW MAKING ONE-THIRD OF HIS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 217699

ORIGINAL SALARY.

11. "FOOTNOTE: IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THE SOVIET UNION SIGNED THE HELSINKI ACCORD, PLEDGING TO LOOK UPON MARRIAGE BETWEEN CITIZENS OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES 'FAVORABLY AND ON THE BASIS OF HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS.'" CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HOUSING, HUMAN RIGHTS, MARRIAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE217699
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780350-0236
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780819/aaaaapxs.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a929f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1607743
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JACK ANDERSON CONTRASTS SOVIET TREATMENT OF CHRISTINA ONASSIS AND ELENA KUZMENKO MARRIAGE CASES
TAGS: SHUM, UR, US, (ONASSIS, CHRISTINA), (KUZMENKO, ELENA)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a929f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014